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HH 307-KFM  
IOP 02 PCT/US

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



MAY 12 2006 Applicants : FELIX KOLLMER and PETER HOERSTER



Serial No. : 10/568,832

Filed : February 17, 2006

For : MASS SPECTROMETER AND LIQUID-METAL ION SOURCE FOR A MASS SPECTROMETER OF THIS TYPE

Customer No. : 010037

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May 9, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56 and §1.97(b), the applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of these references are submitted herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 6,002,128

Liquid Metal Gold Cluster Ion Gun for Improved Molecular Spectroscopy and Imaging, published 2002

The aforementioned references were cited in the "Background of the Invention" section of the present application. Accordingly, no further discussion is believed to be necessary.

U.S. Patent No. 4,686,414

"Cluster Formation Under Bombardment with Polyatomic Projectiles", R. Heinrich, A. Wucher, Elsevier Science B.V., 2000, pp. 720-726.

"Cluster Impacts at keV and MeV Energies: Secondary Emission Phenomena", Yvon Le Beyec, Elsevier Science B.V., 1998, pp. 101-117.

Study of  $\text{Bi}_n^{p+}$  Ions Formed In Liquid-Metal Ion Sources, Physical Review B, XP-002366516, Vol. 35, No. 11, 15 April 1987, pp. 5509-5513.

"Spike Effects in Heavy-Ion Sputtering of Ag, Au and Pt Thin Films", S.S. Johar and D.A. Thompson, Surface Science XP-002366490 (1979) 319-330.

The aforementioned references were cited in the International Search Report of July 1, 2004 of the corresponding International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/007154. A copy of this Report is also enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that this prior art be considered during the examination of this application.

No action has issued in the above-identified application therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is due at this time under 37 CFR §1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

By

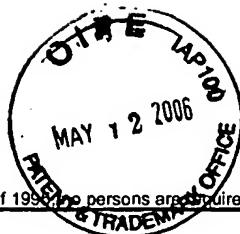
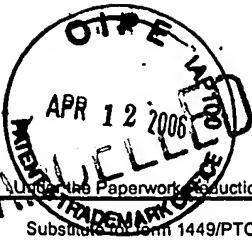
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MILDE & HOFFBERG, LLP  
By Julian Groay  
Date MAY 9, 2006



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitution Form 1449/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

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of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/568,832
Filing Date	FEBRUARY 17, 2006
First Named Inventor	FELIX KOLLMER
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	HH 307-KFM

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of 2

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	10/568,832
				<b>Filing Date</b>	FEBRUARY 17, 2006
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	FELIX KOLLMER
				<b>Art Unit</b>	
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	HH 307-KFM

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
		Liquid Metal Gold Cluster Ion Gun for Improved Molecular Spectroscopy and Imaging, published 2002. ION-TOF GmbH, MUENSTER GERMANY		
		Cluster Formation Under Bombardment with Polyatomic Projectiles, R. Heinrich, A. Wucher, Elsevier Science B.V., 2000, pp. 720-726		
		Cluster Impacts at keV and MeV Energies: Secondary Emission Phenomena, Yvon Le Beyec, Elsevier Science B.V., 1998, pp. 101-117		
		Study of BinP+ Ions Formed In Liquid-Metal Ion Sources, Physical Review B, XP-002366516, Vol. 35, No. 11, 15 April 1987, pp. 5509-5513.		
		Spike Effects in Heavy-Ion Sputtering of Ag, Au and Pt Thin Films", S.S. Johar and D.A. Thompson, Surface Science XP-002366490 (1979) 319-330		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.  
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